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REMARKS

The Office Action mailed February 21, 2008, has been carefully considered together with each of the references cited therein. The amendments and remarks presented herein are believed to be fully responsive to the Office Action. Accordingly, reconsideration of the present Application in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Amendment to the Specification

By this Amendment, Applicant has amended the Specification to correct errors in the numbering of the R groups associated with Formula (12). No newmatter was added by the corrections, which were a clerical error that occurred without deceptive intent. Applicant courteously requests that the Amendment be allowed.

Claim Status

Claims 1 - 8 are pending in the subject Application. By this Amendment, Claims 1 - 3 have been amended, and Claim 4 has been cancelled. Consequently, the claims under consideration are believed to include Claims 1-3 and 5-8.

Claim Objections

Claim 3 is objected to because of informalities.

The Office states, "With regards to formula (6), R_{18} is listed; however, it is not part of the formula". Applicant respectfully directs the Office's attention to the description of R₁₇ in Claim 3, which states, "...R₁₇ is unsubstituted C₁-C₄-alkyl or C₁-C₄-alkyl which is substituted by the radical -O-COR₁₈,". Therefore, R₁₈ is listed in Claim 3.

The Office states, "With regards to formula (7), R₂₁ is not indicated. While R₁₅ is defined, there is no R₁₅ listed in the formula". By this Amendment, Applicant has

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amended the Claim to rectify a clerical error, which was committed without deceptive intent, and amended R₁₅ to R₂₁ as it should have read.

The Office states, "With regards to formula (12), R₂₉, R₃₀, and R₃₁ are not indicated. While R₂₆, R₁₇, R₂₇, and R₂₈ are listed; however, they are not part of the formula". By this Amendment, Applicant has amended the Claim to rectify a clerical error, which was committed without deceptive intent, and amended the R groups to reflect their correct numbering and definition.

Applicant respectfully overcomes these objections and courteously requests that Claim 3 be allowed.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §112

Claim 2 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Applicant respectfully overcomes this rejection.

Applicant has amended Claim 2, to clarify that the percentages expressed are weight percentages. Applicant thereby courteously believes the §112, second paragraph, rejection has been overcome and respectfully requests that currently amended Claim 2 be allowed.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1 - 3 and 5 - 8 stand rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as being anticipated by Choi, et al., (Coloration Technology (2001), 117(3), 127-133). This rejection is respectfully overcome.

By this Amendment, Applicant has amended Claim 1 to more distinctly point out and clarify the subject matter of the claimed invention. More particularly, Applicant has amended Claim 1, such that it is directed to mixture comprising at least one dye of the formula (1')

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$$O_2N$$
 O_2N
 O_2N

and at least one dye of the formula (2')

$$NO_2$$
 NO_2 NO_2 NO_2 NO_2 NO_2 NO_2 NO_2

Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that newly amended Claim 1 and all claims depending therefrom are not anticipated by Choi, et al. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the § 102(b) rejection is respectfully and earnestly solicited.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claim 4 stands rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Choi, et al., (Coloration Technology (2001), 117(3), 127-133) as applied to Claim 1 above in view of Hoppe, et al., (US 5,160348). By this Amendment, Applicant has cancelled Claim 4, this rejection is moot.

As the total number of claims does not exceed the number of claims originally paid for, no fee is believed due. However, if an additional fee is required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to credit any overpayment or charge any fee deficiency to Deposit Account No. 03-2060.

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In view of the forgoing amendments and remarks, the present Application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and reconsideration of it is requested. The Examiner is requested to contact the agent for Applicant at the telephone number provided below if there are any questions regarding this response.

Respectfully submitted,

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